



Advisory Committee Recommendations

Policy: With safety and public health as priorities the committee recommends that THPRD retain existing policy and work to identify new properties to expand traditional, fenced dog parks. Fenced dog parks reduce the likelihood that dogs will be let loose in park areas where they could interfere with other park users such as children on playgrounds, sports field users, walkers, and bicyclists. Providing separate areas for dog exercise segregates dog owners from other users and reduces the safety risks.

Implementation: With 3 existing fenced parks located on the west side of the district, the committee recommends that THPRD add a minimum of four new dog parks by 2024 with a focus on the northeast and southeast quadrants of the district, with at least one site developed in the Cedar Mill area. Consider smaller, neighborhood parks with a focus on walkability and opening multiple parks at one time to lessen impact on the parks and surrounding home owners.

Size and Amenities: The committee recognizes that the optimal site size is a minimum of one acre, although smaller sites between $\frac{1}{4}$ and $\frac{1}{2}$ acre are more likely in neighborhood parks. PFAC recommends the site be fenced and prefer 6 foot high cyclone or field fencing for clear definition and safety. Other amenities such as double-gate entries, water fountain with dog bowl, benches, and shade are highly recommended. The surface area will need to be covered with recycled wood chips or other all-weather surfacing. Street parking, ADA access, and nearby homes should all be considered during planning.

Funding: To ensure implementation of the plan, the committee recommends that funding for development, improvements, and amenities should be prioritized during the budgeting process each year.

For more information, please contact Keith Watson at kwatson@thprd.org